

Application No. 10/693,682
Response to Office Action dated January 30, 2006

Group Art Unit: 3739
Examiner: Roy D. Gibson
Atty. Docket No. 105090-140

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A container configured for replaceable coupling to a phototreatment device having an indicator detector system, comprising:
 - a container housing defining at least one compartment therein;
 - a substance contained in the compartment;
 - a container connector for coupling the container to the phototreatment device;
 - the housing and the compartment being capable of coupling to the phototreatment device to permit communication between the container and the device;
 - and
 - an indicator coupled to the container, wherein the indicator is capable of being detected by the detector system so as to determine an aspect of at least one of the container and the substance.
2. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the substance is a reuseable substance.
3. (Original) The container of claims 1, wherein the substance is a phase change material.
4. (Original) The container of claim 3, wherein the phase change material is selected from the group consisting of liquid carbon tetrafluoride, liquid CO₂, ice, frozen lotions, frozen creams and frozen gels.
5. (Original) The container of claim 3, wherein the phase change material exhibits a phase transition from a liquid to a gaseous state.
6. (Original) The container of claim 3, wherein the phase change material exhibits a phase transition from a solid to a liquid state.

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7. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the substance is a consumable substance.
8. (Original) The container of claim 7, wherein the consumable substance is chosen from the group consisting of topical substances, coolants, super-cooled liquids, pressurized gases, and phase change materials.
9. (Original) The container of claim 7, wherein the consumable substance comprises at least one of lotions, creams, waxes, films, water, alcohols, oils, gels, powders, aerosols, and granular particles.
10. (Original) The container of claim 8, wherein the coolant is one of liquid tetrafluoroethane (R-134a), liquid CO₂, ice, frozen lotions, frozen gels, cristallohydrates (45%CaCl⁺6H₂O: 55%CaBr⁺6H₂O or KF⁺4H₂O), organic materials as HO(C₂H₄O)₈C₂H₄OH (PE Glycol), Caprylic acid, Hexadecane, and Paraffin 5913.
11. (Previously Presented) The container of claims 1, wherein the housing and compartment are capable of being coupled to the phototreatment device to provide a flow path for substance release during phototreatment.
12. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 1, A container configured for replaceable coupling to a phototreatment device having an indicator detector system, comprising:
a container housing defining at least one compartment therein;
a substance contained in the compartment, wherein the substance further
comprises a marker;
the housing and the compartment being capable of coupling to the
phototreatment device to permit communication between the container and the device;
and

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an indicator coupled to the container, wherein the indicator is capable of being detected by the detector system so as to determine an aspect of at least one of the container and the substance.

13. (Original) The container of claim 12, wherein the marker is selected from the group consisting of absorptive markers, photoactive markers, optical markers, fluorescent markers, electric markers, and magnetic markers.

14. (Original) The container of claim 12, wherein the marker is selected from the group consisting of dyes, metals, ions, colored particles, photosensitve dyes, photosensitive materials, carbon particles, conductive skin lotions, electrolyte sprays, conductive electrode gels, and oxides.

15. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the compartment is capable of being fluidly coupled to at least one of a head of a phototreatment device, a heat dissipating element, target area, or a tissue to be treated.

16. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 1, A container configured for replaceable coupling to a phototreatment device having an indicator detector system, comprising:

a container housing defining at least one compartment therein, wherein the at least one compartment further comprises a first compartment and a second compartment, the first compartment adapted to couple to a tissue, and the second compartment adapted to couple to a heat dissipating element in the phototreatment device;

a substance contained in the compartment;

the housing and the compartment being capable of coupling to the phototreatment device to permit communication between the container and the device;
and

an indicator coupled to the container, wherein the indicator is capable of being detected by the detector system so as to determine an aspect of at least one of the container and the substance.

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17. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the indicator is selected from the group consisting of mechanical indicia, optical indicia, magnetic indicia, electronic indicia, and piezoelectric indicia.

18. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the indicator is coupled to a detector that is configured and arranged to monitor a substance parameter.

19. (Original) The container of claim 18, wherein the detector is selected from the group consisting of a mechanical detector, an optical detector, a magnetic detector, an electronic detector, and a piezoelectric detector.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the container is user-replaceable.

22. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a phototreatment device comprising:

coupling a container of an adjuvant substance to a phototreatment device, the container having at least one indicator coupled to the container;

evaluating the indicator to determine an aspect of at least one of the container and the substance; and

enabling operation of the phototreatment device if the evaluation is acceptable.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the step of enabling operation comprises activating a radiation source.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

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26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) A phototreatment device for use with a substance including a marker, comprising:

a radiation source to effect a phototreatment on a region of skin tissue; and
a detector assembly to detect the marker and to selectively activate the radiation source based on marker detection.

29. (Previously Presented) The phototreatment device of claim 28, wherein the device further comprises an applicator configured and arranged to deposit the substance including the marker in at least a portion of the region.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

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38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a phototreatment device for treatment of dermatological conditions, comprising:

applying a topical substance to skin tissue;
detecting a parameter associated with the topical substance; and
enabling operation of the phototreatment device based on a detected value of the substance parameter.

45. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 1, A container configured for replaceable coupling to a phototreatment device having an indicator detector system, comprising:

a container housing defining at least one compartment therein;
a substance contained in the compartment;
the housing and the compartment being capable of coupling to the
phototreatment device to permit communication between the container and the device;
and
an indicator coupled to the container, wherein the indicator is capable of being
detected by the detector system so as to determine an aspect of at least one of the
container and the substance, wherein the aspect of at least one of the container and the
substance indicates appropriate coupling of the container to the phototreatment device.

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46. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the aspect of at least one of the container and the substance indicates an appropriate container.

47. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the aspect of at least one of the container and the substance indicates an appropriate substance.

48. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the aspect of at least one of the container and the substance indicates the amount of substance contained within the container.

49. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the container further comprises a container connector for coupling the container to the phototreatment device.

50. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 49, wherein the container connector is a fluid conduit.

51. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the communication between the container and the device comprises heat transfer between the container and the device.

52. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the communication between the container and the device comprises heat transfer between the substance and the device.

53. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the communication between the container and the device comprises fluid transfer of at least a portion of the substance from the compartment to the device.